

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 14, 1994

6:30 P.M.

Correction to Minutes

The following correction to the minutes of the June 14, 1994 Town Council Meeting was approved and accepted by the Council at its meeting of August 23, 1994:

ITEM #39 - Pages #29-34

Language should be included in the minutes to reflect that Chairman Solinsky abstained from voting on the blanket purchase order bid list for F.Y. 94-95 due to the fact that a relative of his is a vendor on said list

Kathryn F. Milano

Kathryn F. Milano
Town Council Secretary

RECEIVED ON FILE AUG 25 1994
AT 10 50 AM
ATTEST *Kelly [Signature]*
TOWN CLERK

June 14, 1994

Mayor Dickinson responded, there are two vehicles in the fire department. the deputy chief's and the fire chief. They have regular plates. however, the vehicles are easily identified as fire personnel vehicles.

Chief Harrington explained that the trend of the fire department was to get away from the two top managers of the department travelling in clearly marked vehicles for several reasons. Conferences are generally held in motels and the public would not understand why the cars would be present at the motels. Chief Harrington recently attended a meeting at the VFW hall for the Town of Wallingford representing the department at the parade committee. People there, going by and not knowing that there was a meeting going on, stopped and looked and asked. what is the deputy fire chief doing at a bar?

Mayor Dickinson stated. all the labeling on the vehicle will not excuse the use of poor judgement on the part of the person using the vehicle. If the privilege has been abused then a report should be made to the Mayor's office and investigated. We do have employees who have authority to take vehicles home with expensive equipment in those vehicles who live outside of town. He does not want those vehicles to become a target of vandalism any more than it is now. The general rule is to have the vehicles used properly.

Mr. Gouveia asked. are you saying Mayor that it makes no difference whether this resolution passes or not? Is it going to be enforced if it passes?

Mayor Dickinson responded, it will be enforced to the degree that is appropriate given what some of the other concerns are. There is other signage on vehicles that occurs through administrative discretion. He was interested in being as cooperative on this issue as possible but he foresees some areas that will be difficult.

Mr. Gouveia asked for a copy of the vehicle use policy a few meetings ago. He asked if the information received, basically a letter written to all department heads. constitutes a policy?

Mayor Dickinson responded. yes, there are a couple of letters involved.

Mr. Gouveia read one memo into the record and felt that it does not constitute a policy. In the past Stanley Seadale, former Personnel Director. was requested to survey other towns to determine which ones had policies of this nature. Some did and some did not. Those which did not was because they had no private use of the town vehicles at all. Cheshire was, at that time, developing a policy. The words used in our policy are not strong enough. It seems to give advice more than indicates policy.

Mayor Dickinson disagreed with Mr. Gouveia and stated that any employee knows that they are authorized to use the vehicles only in certain circumstances. They are not authorized any personal use beyond commuting. Commuting is basically that. If someone stops at the store to or from work. that is not a departure from the policy.

June 14, 1994

The vehicle should not be used solely for personal use such as a separate drive somewhere, say to pick up milk. He does not feel that the policy is advisable at all.

Mr. Gouveia does not feel that the word "should" ought to be used. The policy, if you want to call it a policy, does not indicate what the ramifications are if it is not followed. In addition to that it does not indicate what the due process is in case they do violate the policy.

Mayor Dickinson stated that the Mayor's office is the boss and those who report to him will have to be accountable to that office for their actions. The Mayor has the ability to warn, discipline, suspend and ultimately fire a violator.

Mr. Gouveia felt that language should be stated specifically in the policy.

Mayor Dickinson felt that issue is covered under the personnel rules and regulations and the classified service. It is not necessary to re-hash the relationship between the Mayor's office and the departments who report there.

Mr. Rys asked, does this include the Board of Education vehicles?

Mayor Dickinson responded, yes.

Mr. Zandri asked, who is responsible for the property of the Town of Wallingford?

Mayor Dickinson responded, the department is in charge of the use, custody, etc. of the vehicle and is responsible for it. The Town owns the vehicle.

Mr. Zappala was amazed that there was so much dissension over this issue. There is nothing wrong with what is being requested. If individuals are exposed for doing something wrong then they should answer for it, if none of the employees are violating the policy they have nothing to fear. He felt that the Council assumes the right to mark the cars since they are responsible for purchasing them.

The confusion lies in who has the authority to request that the vehicles be marked.

Mr. Zandri suggested that the next time the vehicles are going to be purchased that the Council specify that they be clearly marked as Town of Wallingford vehicles as a stipulation of the purchase.

VOTE: Rys. no; all others, aye; motion duly carried.

At this time the Council discussed whether or not to take action on the Fire Marshal's requests this evening since he did not appear at the meeting.

Mr. Solinsky asked if the transfers can be treated under the Mayoral

Transfer rules?

Mayor Dickinson responded. Unfortunately, he was not aware exactly how much is needed for the transfer for the salary issue for this week. There was no explanation offered as to why this amount is requested. He was not sure that \$200 would cover the shortfall or whether a previous Mayoral transfer has taken place with the account. He suggested that the salary issue be dealt with this evening because if we don't have the money to pay people, it could result in a problem. The office supplies request also does not have an explanation accompanying it and therefore we don't know how critical the request is.

Mr. Killen asked, why isn't someone here from that department?

Mrs. Duryea also commented that a representative should be available, especially since they are requesting a waiver of Rule V of the Town Council Meeting Procedures.

Mayor Dickinson responded, an effort has been made to find out why no one is here and he does not have an explanation.

Town Council Secretary, Kathryn Milano, stated that she contacted Mr. Lamy's office this afternoon when she learned that there would be a waiver of Rule V for the \$700 transfer for overtime. Tom Hanchuruck, Deputy Fire Marshal answered and she asked that Mr. Lamy be informed that the Council is waiving Rule V this evening and that he should be present tonight. Tom stated that he would beep Mr. Lamy on his pager and Ms. Milano informed Mr. Hanchuruck that if Mr. Lamy cannot be reached someone should be present this evening, meaning Mr. Hanchuruck. He responded, fine. He didn't show (meaning Mr. Lamy). She called Mr. Lamy's residence and there was no answer. She beeped him and when she spoke to him (Mr. Lamy) he stated, if there is a problem he would be glad to discuss it next week. She was not sure if she should continue with the details. Both she and the Mayor were under the impression that Mr. Lamy would come to the meeting this evening after speaking with him. He did not, obviously.

Mayor Dickinson added that he spoke to Mr. Lamy in the Town Council Office when the secretary reached him. The Mayor did not have an explanation as to why no one is here. He suggested dealing with the salary issue since he did not want to find himself in a bind with paying employees. The other transfer could wait.

Mr. Solinsky asked if someone wanted to put the item on the table.

Mayor Dickinson stated, if someone is owed money the Comptroller's Office will not draw the check which means it becomes a labor issue.

WAIVER OF RULE V

Ms. Papale made a motion to Waive Rule V of the Town Council Meeting Procedures because she does not want to return for a special meeting. The purpose of the waiver is to Consider a Transfer of Funds for the Fire Marshal, seconded by Mr. Zappala.

NOTE ON WAIVING RULE V: Duryea, Papale, Zappala and Solinsky, aye; all others. no; motion failed.

ITEM #41 Executive Session Pursuant to Section 1-18a(e)(2) of the CT. General Statutes with Regards to Pending Litigation

- Proposed Resolution of PCB Violations

Motion was made by Mrs. Duryea to Enter Into Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Knight.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Killen to Exit the Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Zappala.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mrs. Duryea to Approve the Settlement Concerning the PCB Violations with the Electric Division and EPA, seconded by Mr. Killen.

VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Killen to Adjourn the Meeting, seconded by Ms. Papale.

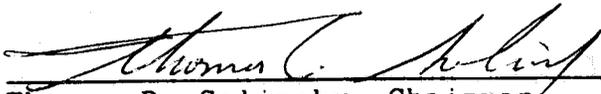
VOTE: All ayes; motion duly carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:19 A.M.

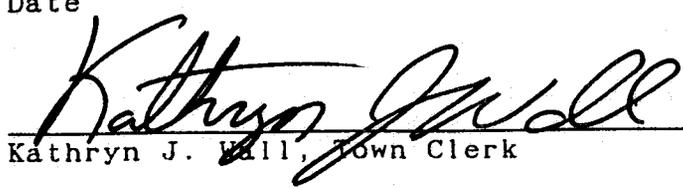
Meeting recorded and transcribed by:

Kathryn F. Milano, Town Council Secretary

Approved: _____


Thomas D. Solinsky, Chairman

8-24-94
Date


Kathryn J. Wall, Town Clerk

AUG 24 1994
Date

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the Town of Wallingford wishes to increase public awareness of the many functions, capacities and degrees of service provided by its employees to the residents and businesses of the Town of Wallingford; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Town of Wallingford to promote a positive image and to better inform the public of such functions and customer services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WALLINGFORD that all vehicles owned by the Town of Wallingford and operated by employees and representatives of the Town of Wallingford shall display Town of Wallingford signage uniform in size and design on the front doors of both driver and passenger sides of said vehicles clearly identifying the vehicle as Town of Wallingford property and the occupants as employees or representatives of the Town of Wallingford.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, HOWEVER, that should compliance with this Resolution impede or compromise the duties or functions of the Town employee or department, such employee or department shall not be required to comply with the mandate of this Resolution.

DATED AT WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT THIS _____ DAY OF JUNE, 1994.

William W. Dickinson, Jr.
Mayor

EMERGENCY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 22, 1994

6:20 P.M.

AGENDA

1. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Emergency transfer of funds to repair the Air Conditioning System which cools the 911 Computer Equipment at the Department of Fire Services

RECEIVED FOR RECORD JUN 21 1994
AT 6 H 15 M P M AND RECORDED BY
Kathryn J. Wall TOWN CLERK